

Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish of Kirribilli to a parish

(A report of the Northern Regional Council.)

Proposal

1. A proposal was made to the Archbishop by the minister and wardens of the provisional parish of St John the Baptist, Kirribilli, also known as Church by the Bridge, under clause 4 of the Parishes Ordinance 1979 for reclassification as a parish.

Details of meeting

2. A meeting of the Northern Regional Council, held on 16 August 2011, considered the proposal under clause 5 of the Parishes Ordinance 1979.

3. The Northern Regional Council certifies that all procedural requirements under clauses 4 and 6 of the Parishes Ordinance have been completed, and recommends that the Synod raise the status of the provisional parish to a parish.

Parish information

4. St John's, Milson's Point (now Kirribilli) was built and opened for public worship in 1884, as a branch church of Christ Church, North Sydney (now Lavender Bay). It was separated from the mother church as a conventional district in 1896 and became a full parish in 1902. In 1939 the church was listed as St John the Baptist in the Year Book for the first time. However, by 1989 the congregation had diminished in size and was amalgamated with St Augustine's Neutral Bay, with a name change to St John the Baptist, Kirribilli. The Rev Ernest Chau was appointed Assistant Minister in 1991 and the Chinese congregation which had been meeting in Chapter House transferred to Kirribilli. The church grew under Ernest's leadership so that within nine years, St John the Baptist regained its independent status as a provisional parish. In May 2007 the Rev Dr Paul Dale became the Curate-in-Charge, having begun a church plant from St Thomas' North Sydney over the two previous years. Under Paul's leadership the church has grown significantly.

5. Regular attendance during 2011 at St John the Baptist (apart from a Sunday School of 43 children) is as follows, including a new offsite Sunday evening service at Christ Church Lavender Bay in March –

8.00 am	20	6.45 pm	115
9.45 am	75	6.30 pm	60 (since March 2011)
5.00 pm	105	5.30 pm	68 (Saturday)

Under God the 2020 vision for Church by the Bridge is to have 12 gatherings of 120 people each, with six offsite and six onsite.

Particulars of church property

6. Details of property held by the Anglican Church Property Trust upon trust for the Provisional Parish are as follows –

	Value of Land and Improvements
Church	\$4,387,000
Residence	\$1,755,000
Hall	\$1,137,000
Toilet block	\$68,000

Summary of consolidated receipts and payments

7. A summary of the financial position over the past two years is set out below:

	2009	2010
Receipts	\$	\$
Offerories	566,962	622,120
Interest/ Investments	12,495	13,792
Trading Activities excess	9,187	7,615
Other	13,989	38,444
Total	609,682	681,971

	2009	2010
Expenditure	\$	\$
Stipends/salaries	394,878	420,498
Resources for ministry	48,178	45,838
Parish donations	47,072	55,437
Administration	17,912	13,484
Property maintenance	110,112	39,348
Other	8,585	8,572
Total	626,737	583,177

- 8. The parish has no outstanding debts.
- 9. The Bishop of North Sydney supports this application.

Recommendation

10. The Northern Regional Council recommends that the provisional parish of Kirribilli be reclassified as a parish with effect from 1 January 2012.

For and on behalf of the Northern Regional Council.

GLENN N DAVIES
Regional Bishop

24 August 2011